

Special Plastics Recycling Event

Save Clean Nursery Pots, Soil and Fertilizer Bags, Plastic Baling Wrap, And Twine to Recycle in April

Do you have nursery pots and flats piling up in your garage? Or plastic baling twine, plastic soil and fertilizer bags accumulating? Did your greenhouse not weather the last windstorm well? Don't throw them in the trash, save them for the first "agricultural plastics" recycling opportunity in Clallam County. If the materials are dry and relatively clean, they will be accepted for FREE recycling at a special collection event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 13 at EcycleNW at 40 Harrison Road off of Hooker Road in Carlsborg.

The event is sponsored by the City of Port Angeles and the Clallam Conservation District.

Materials collected at the event will be processed by EcycleNW, a recycler in Carlsborg. Recycled agricultural plastics are used in the manufacture of truck bed liners, black plastic landscape supplies, drain pipe, plastic lumber for benches, posts and pilings, pallets, automotive components, tool handles and black trash bags.

Coordinating this statewide recycling initiative is RESources, a nonprofit environmental organization in Bellingham whose mission is to promote sustainable communities through recycling, education, advocacy, and conservation of natural resources. Learn more about RESources at <http://www.re-sources.org/agriculturalplastics.htm>

Similar events are being held in seven counties in the Puget Sound Region. They have been met with great enthusiasm, with farmers and gardeners bringing in over 100 tons of plastic so far. Jefferson County is holding an event the same weekend as Clallam County. Jefferson County residents are invited to recycle agricultural plastics from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 12 at Cenex Harvest States at 9315 Rhody Drive in Chimacum. Contact Kate Dean, Jefferson LandWorks Collaborative, at (360)301-1750 or info@jeffersonlandworks.org.

How to Prepare Materials: (Keep like materials together)

Plastic nursery pots and trays:

- Empty pots; knock off loose dirt
- Sort by size

Plastic baling twine:

- Shake to remove dirt and straw
- Pack loosely in a large plastic bag
- Store in a dry location

Soil and fertilizer bags:

- Turn bag inside out
- Shake to remove loose material; dry bags if necessary
- Pack several dry bags together inside one of the bags
- Store in a dry location

Hay and silage bale covers & tarps:

- Shake off any dirt
- Fold in bundles of about 25 pounds or less, as densely as possible
- Tie with a strip of plastic cut from the bale cover itself (don't mix plastics)
- Keep plastic dry

For more information about the event, contact Helen Freilich, City of Port Angeles, at (360) 417-4874 or Meghan Adamire, Clallam Conservation District, at (360) 452-1912 ext. 109.